

S. Res. 137. A resolution to authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel in *John Hoffman, et al. v. James Jeffords*; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 242

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 242, a bill to authorize funding for University Nuclear Science and Engineering Programs at the Department of Energy for fiscal years 2002 through 2006.

S. 367

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 367, a bill to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign nongovernmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. 392

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 392, a bill to grant a Federal Charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, and for other purposes.

S. 501

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 501, a bill to amend titles IV and XX of the Social Security Act to restore funding for the Social Services Block Grant, to restore the ability of States to transfer up to 10 percent of TANF funds to carry out activities under such block grant, and to require an annual report on such activities by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

S. 565

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 565, a bill to establish the Commission on Voting Rights and Procedures to study and make recommendations regarding election technology, voting, and election administration, to establish a grant program under which the Office of Justice Programs and the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice shall provide assistance to States and localities in improving election technology and the administration of Federal elections, to require States to meet uniform and non-discriminatory election technology and administration requirements for the 2004 Federal elections, and for other purposes.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide capital gain treatment under section 631(b) of such Code for outright sales of timber by landowners.

S. 620

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 620, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding elementary school and secondary school counseling.

S. 661

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 661, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 4.3-cent motor fuel exercise taxes on railroads and inland waterway transportation which remain in the general fund of the Treasury.

S. 826

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 826, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate cost-sharing under the medicare program for bone mass measurements.

S. 829

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 829, a bill to establish the National Museum of African American History and Culture within the Smithsonian Institution.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend part C of title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for coordination of implementation of administrative simplification standards for health care information.

S. 852

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 852, a bill to support the aspirations of the Tibetan people to safeguard their distinct identity.

S. 880

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 880, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide adequate coverage for immunosuppressive drugs furnished to beneficiaries under the medicare program that have received an organ transplant, and for other purposes.

S. 905

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 905, a bill to provide incentives for school construction, and for other purposes.

S. 942

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cospon-

sor of S. 942, a bill to authorize the supplemental grant for population increases in certain states under the temporary assistance to needy families program for fiscal year 2002.

S. 999

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 999, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for a Korea Defense Service Medal to be issued to members of the Armed Forces who participated in operations in Korea after the end of the Korean War.

S. 1017

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1017, a bill to provide the people of Cuba with access to food and medicines from the United States, to ease restrictions on travel to Cuba, to provide scholarships for certain Cuban nationals, and for other purposes.

S. 1018

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1018, a bill to provide market loss assistance for apple producers.

S. 1075

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1075, a bill to extend and modify the Drug-Free Communities Support Program, to authorize a National Community Antidrug Coalition Institute, and for other purposes.

S. 1169

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1169, a bill to streamline the regulatory processes applicable to home health agencies under the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the medicaid program under title XIX of such Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1195

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1195, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to terminate mortgagee origination approval for poorly performing mortgagees.

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1195, *supra*.

S. RES. 109

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 109, a resolution designating the second Sunday in the month of December as "National Children's Memorial Day" and the last Friday in the month of April as "Children's Memorial Flag Day."

S. CON. RES. 52

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 52, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that reducing crime in public housing should be a priority, and that the successful Public Housing Drug Elimination Program should be fully funded.

S. CON. RES. 59

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 59, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that there should be established a National Community Health Center Week to raise awareness of health services provided by community, migrant, public housing, and homeless health centers.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 1197. A bill to authorize a program of assistance to improve international building practices in eligible Latin American countries; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that will improve building safety in Latin America, increase the cost-effectiveness of our disaster relief assistance, and, most importantly, save lives. As many of us know, throughout the last decade, the people of Latin America have been the victims of numerous natural disasters that have resulted in death, property damage, and destruction. Indeed, in the last three years the continent has been ravaged by Hurricane Mitch, earthquakes in El Salvador and Peru, and horrendous rains and mudslides. These disasters have exacted a tremendous toll on the region, causing over 12,000 deaths, \$40 billion in damage, and numerous injuries.

The cost to rebuild following these disasters is prohibitive and places a tremendous burden on the already struggling emerging economies of Latin America. To mitigate this cost, the United States has frequently released disaster relief funds to help affected countries recover the injured, maintain order, and rebuild their infrastructure. For example, the combined assistance released by the United States following Hurricane Mitch and the recent earthquakes totals over \$1.2 billion. I fully support these appropriations, and believe that we have a duty to assist our neighbors and allies when they are confronted with natural disasters. I do, however, believe that we can make this assistance more cost-effective in the long run, while saving lives.

As I stated, I fully support offering U.S. monetary assistance to rebuild following natural disasters. However, because much of Latin America does not utilize modern, up-to-date building

codes, much of this assistance goes to waste. For example, following the earthquakes in El Salvador in 1986, the United States provided \$98 million dollars to rebuild that country. Most of the reconstruction was done by local Salvadoran contractors, and these structures were not built to code. Now, 15 years later, following the most recent earthquakes in El Salvador, the United States offered over \$100 million dollars in aid. Had reconstruction in 1986 been done to code, undoubtedly the cost of the most recent earthquake would have been lower in both monetary value and lives.

To remedy this problem, and encourage safe, modern building practices in countries that need them the most, I introduce today, with my colleagues Senator LIEBERMAN and Senator SESSIONS, the Code and Safety for the Americas, CASA Act. The CASA Act would authorize the expenditure of \$3 million over two years from general foreign aid funds to translate the International Code Council family of building codes, which are the standard for the United States, into Spanish. Furthermore, it would provide funding for the International Code Council's proposal to train architects and contractors in El Salvador and Ecuador in the proper use of the code. By educating builders and providing them the necessary code for their work in their own language, it is only a matter of time before we will begin to see safer buildings in the region, and a return on our investment. The United States spent over \$10 million in body bags, temporary tent housing, and first aid alone following the recent earthquake in El Salvador. For a comparatively modest sum, \$3 million, we can reduce the need for this type of aid by attacking the problem of shoddy building before it begins.

In addition, after this program has been implemented in El Salvador and Ecuador, it could easily be replicated in other Latin American countries at low cost, requiring only funding for the training program. While we want to start this program on a small scale, I am confident that other countries will request similar training programs in the future. In fact, other countries have already asked to be considered for a future expansion of the program. The Inter-American Development Bank and UN have expressed interest in this idea, and are potential candidates to provide partial funding of any future expansion. Given this interest, it is highly likely that, in the future, a public-private partnership can be constructed to expand this program to Peru, Guatemala, and the rest of Spanish-speaking Latin America. Also, we cannot forget the valuable contributions that American volunteer organizations such as the International Executive Service Corps can make to this program in the long-run.

This legislation is supported by architects, contractors, and public officials both in the United States and in

Latin America. Students of architecture in Latin America want to be taught proper standards and code application, and local governments have requested the code in Spanish. So, this is not a case of the "ugly" America imposing its will on Latin America. We have been asked to share this life-saving code with our Southern neighbors and, indeed, the number of requests from different countries has been staggering.

In short, this legislation will save lives, lessen the damage caused by future disasters, and illustrate our good will toward our Latin American allies while proving to be cost-effective for the United States through decreased aid following future disasters. For a detailed analysis of the problem, and this solution, I wish to draw my colleagues attention to an article by Steven Forneris, an American architect living in Ecuador, that appeared in "Building Standards" magazine. In it, Mr. Forneris argues the value of this proposal from his position at the front lines in Ecuador. He clearly and eloquently outlines why Latin America needs building code reform, and why it is in the best interests of the United States to involve itself in this endeavor.

The CASA Act is common-sense legislation that will dramatically improve the lives of citizens of our hemisphere, and represents a real chance for American leadership in the Hemisphere at very little cost. I hope that my colleagues will join me in this humanitarian effort.

I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Forneris' article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Building Standards, March-April 2001]

IS IT WRONG TO ASK FOR HELP ON BUILDING CODES?

(By Stephen Forneris)

I work in the field of architecture, part of the time in the City of Guayaquil, Ecuador, and the other part of the time in New York State. Like everyone involved in this profession, one of my chief responsibilities is to guard the health, safety and welfare of my clients. The architects I work with in New York do this by following the International Codes promulgated by the International Code Council (ICC). When working as an architect myself in the small Latin American nation of Ecuador, which simply does not have the resources to develop a complete building code of its own, I am left with a set of very limited and woefully inadequate codes.

Ecuador developed its current code 20 years ago by translating portions of 1970s versions of the American Concrete Institute "Building Code Requirements for Reinforced Concrete and the Uniform Building Code" (UBC). While a noble effort at the time, it is antiquated by today's standards. The adopted provisions only address structural design requirements and the code does not provide for any general life-safety design concerns such as fire and egress. In 1996, the president of Ecuador signed a bill to develop a new code, but it will take years before it is fully complete and will still only consider structural design requirements. So what does this